Export of IT

† 1195. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether percentage of export with regard to information technology sector has declined;

(b) if so, the percentage of decline during the last two years;

(c) The money involved in the information technology business at present; and

(d) the theoretical and practical efforts made by Government for increasing the business of this sector?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Notwithstanding the general global slowdown, India's software exports is likely to register at robust growth rate of over 30% during 2001-2002. The software export during 2001-2002 is likely to be over Rs. 37,000 crores, as compared to Rs. 28,350 crores during 2000-01.

(d) The steps taken by the Government to promote IT industry are given in the Statement. *[Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to Unstarred Question No. 1168 Part (c)]*

OCB Telephone Exchanges In Himachal Pradesh

† 1196. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme to establish OCB Telephone Exchanges based on modern system of Communications in Hamirpur, Bilaspur and Una districts of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for delay if any?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.